

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 5, 6, 8 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Claims 5, 6, 8 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zettner et al in view of Deppert et al and Welter et al.

By the present invention, an offset load by the belt is applied to the pulley unit. The load is applied to the roller bearing having high load ability so that damage to this bearing is prevented. Simultaneously, the load is applied to the roller bearing in line contact so that deformation of the inner ring body and the pulley due to loading is prevented. Additionally a one-way clutch is disposed in the vicinity of the region under load so that a defective lock functioning of the one-way clutch due to an offset load is prevented.

The Zettner patent has a one-way clutch and roller bearings on both sides of the one-way clutch. However Zettner is different from the present invention in that the offset load is applied by means of a hanging belt.

The Deppert patent discloses the pulley having a roller bearing, a ball bearing and a one-way clutch. However Deppert's one-way clutch is axially outward disposed in regard to the ball bearing and is disposed in the contra-side of the region under load by the belt, which is different from the disposition of the present invention. In the Deppert's disposition, the one-way clutch is

difficult to maintain a locking function when an offset load is applied.

The Welter patent discloses nothing but a single one-way clutch.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 30, 2004
JLS/dmt